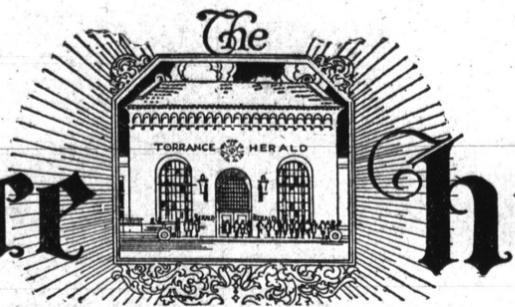


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Torrance Herald and Lomita News

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NINETEENTH YEAR—No. 29

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, JULY 20, 1933

PER COPY 5c

The Mayor Shows His Hand!

An Editorial

Why is Mayor Klusman so anxious to show that the property of the Torrance Water, Light & Power Company is worth MORE to the City of Torrance than the FULL APPRAISAL VALUE placed on the system by the city's special consulting engineers? And why isn't Mayor Klusman looking after the city's interests in the impending deal with the water company instead of arguing in favor of the water company? Well, make your own guess!

Citizens who sat in the council chamber last Thursday evening were astonished that Mayor Klusman should be so bold as to come out in the open and attempt to show that the water company was entitled to something additional for "good will,"—right in the face of the frank statement of the engineers that "OUR RECOMMENDATION IS THAT THE PHYSICAL PROPERTY OF THE TORRANCE WATER, LIGHT & POWER CO. HAS A PRESENT NET VALUE FOR PURCHASE BY THE CITY OF \$113,441 AND NO MORE, AND THAT THE CITY AUTHORITIES SHOULD NOT CONSIDER THE PAYMENT FOR ANYTHING BUT THIS PHYSICAL PROPERTY."

At a previous meeting, Mayor Klusman suggested a price of \$125,000. WHY THE EXTRA \$11,559?

Councilman Scott Ludlow's curt comment following the Mayor's arguments in favor of the water company are significant. Ludlow said, "I think the water company is very fortunate in having such an able representative on the city council. I don't think the water company could have had a better attorney."

The Herald is printing the complete text of the engineers' report in this issue, except for the detail table supplementing the summary report. You will find this report very interesting and to the point,—even though Mayor Klusman said the recommendations contained in it were of no value to him and that Mr. Bradshaw, the engineer, had no business making recommendations. We thought that was why the city hired the engineers.

It is indeed fortunate for the people of Torrance that there are four other members on the city council besides Mayor Klusman.

HEAT CLAIMS REDONDO MAN AS VICTIM IN DESERT TRIP

Steve Carevich, Redondo Grocer, Loses Life When Party of Four Are Stranded Near Blythe; Torrance Man Rescued

Rivalling the stories of the old days when men perished of heat and thirst as they wandered in the desert under a burning sun, is the tale of four men who left Redondo Beach last Friday to go on a combined business and vacation trip to Wickenburg, Arizona, to look at some mining property, but who were stranded on a trail seldom traveled at this season of the year in the Colorado desert near Blythe, where one of the party, Steve Carevich, age 50, died of heat and exhaustion, and the others narrowly escaped with their lives.

Carevich left Redondo in company with C. C. Cribbs, former president of the Redondo Beach high school, T. H. Lewis, 608 Garnet street, Redondo, and J. McMurray, who resides at the California Court, 1005 Sartori avenue. Mr. McMurray is the father-in-law of R. E. Burdick, former proprietor of the court.

As the party left Mecca, by mistake they failed to take note of signboards which plainly indicated the Mecca-Phoenix highway, which would have put them into their destination within a few hours, and got off on a dirt road leading south where after they had gone some distance tire trouble developed for the second time on the trip which left them without a spare, and the party halted at 10 o'clock Saturday morning.

Cribbs and Lewis took a share of the water which the men had loaded into the car and started on foot for Wiley's Wells, about 12 miles distant. After hours of painful travel they reached the wells where they replenished their water supply and kept on to a mining camp near Ripley from where a rescue party was dispatched to the relief of McMurray and Carevich who had been left to wait in the car.

According to Mr. McMurray who is at his home recovering from the effects of his terrible experience, Carevich became restless and uneasy as the hours wore away and there was no sign of a

REDONDO MAN FOUND DYING AT ROADSIDE

Unknown Assailant Flees After Ferocious Attack In WALTERIA

With his head crushed to a pulp from the brutal beating he had received at the hands of an unknown assailant, John W. Whitehead, aged 52, a resident of Redondo Beach, died at 11:20 Tuesday night at the Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial hospital whither Torrance police had taken him.

Night Police Ernest Ashton, summoned to Walteria at 10:20 by Walter West, 2712 Redondo-Wilmington boulevard, found Whitehead lying in a pool of blood near the road a short distance away from the eating establishment at the above address. Ashton and James Brodie, seeing that the man's condition was critical, placed him in the police car and rushed him immediately to the hospital, but his injuries were of such a nature that death ensued within a short time.

A car label gave a clue to the man's identity. Ashton notified Redondo police and Chief Harry M. Peterson, Sergeant Harry Beer and Fire Chief E. C. Hull came to Torrance immediately and identified the man as John W. Whitehead, residing at the Aberdeen apartments, at Garnet and Bonita avenues, Redondo Beach. He is said to have worked at one time for the Hull Plumbing Shop as a bookkeeper and later had been employed at various restaurants in the beach city. He had no relatives in this section, according to report, but is said to have two children residing in the east.

Search for clues to the identity of the persons who had committed the deadly assault resulted in the finding of a blood-stained hammer near the scene. Wounds on Whitehead's scalp and the condition of his skull seemed to indicate that a hammer had been the weapon used in the brutal beating.

Charles Tedesco, a shoemaker at 233 Avenue B, Redondo Beach, is being held in the Torrance city jail for officers of the sheriff's homicide squad who are checking up on his story as to his whereabouts on the night of the crime. According to report, Whitehead is indeed in Tedesco in the sum of about \$50 and on July 3 had taken out an insurance policy for \$1000 in favor of Tedesco. A second man, employed by Tedesco, who has disappeared since Tuesday night, is being sought. This man is said to have had a key to the shop where he worked and kept there. A hammer is said to be missing from among the tools kept there.

A third man, a hobo who was sleeping in the "jungle" along Redondo-Wilmington road a short distance from the scene of the killing, is being held in the Redondo jail as a material witness. This man is said to have heard the altercation and witnessed the beating. According to his story two men were concerned in the assault, but whether he will be able to identify them is a matter of conjecture as the night was dark and he was several rods from the scene.

Went's statement to police that a man in a car passing his place had told him of the affair caused officers to spread a search for the unknown informant, for further questioning, as it is said that at the point where Whitehead was found, his body could not be seen from the road.

Unsettled Claims Trouble Bowersox

N. O. Bowersox, former proprietor of the Torrance Poultry Market, was taken in custody July 15 on complaint of Miss Edith Harshman, Keystone, who claimed that an incubator belonging to her which had been left with Bowersox to sell on consignment had been included in the bill of sale given to T. S. Lovelady last week when he purchased the stock and fixtures from Bowersox. Bowersox posted \$50 bail and made arrangements to clean up the other unsettled claims that had appeared simultaneously with this affair and on Tuesday appeared before Judge C. T. Rippey and asked to be allowed to forfeit his bail. His request was granted and Bowersox was released, his no longer connected with the market.

LOS ANGELES VISITORS
Mr. and Mrs. P. J. Conroy and sons, Donald and Neil, of Los Angeles, are visiting this week at the home of Mrs. Conroy's brother, Mr. and Mrs. Neil McConlogue, 1028 Portola avenue.

THEY WORK WELL TOGETHER



Above, Congressman Colden, who was lauded last night for standing squarely behind President Roosevelt's recovery program.

CONGRESSMAN COLDEN GIVES VIEWS ON NATIONAL AFFAIRS

Democrats and Republicans Alike Join In Praise For Congressman's Action In Upholding President's Program

Highlights of the New Deal and interesting close-up impressions of affairs at the national capital were discussed by Congressman Charles J. Colden last evening following a welcome-home dinner given in his honor by the Gardena Democratic Club and attended by representatives of other

Democratic clubs in this congressional district. Dinner was served to over 175 by the Gardena Women's Democratic Club in the American Legion hall. Following the serving of the dinner, the tables were removed and additional chairs brought in to accommodate many other friends of Congressman Colden who crowded in to welcome him home and hear his address.

In the audience were many former Republicans and Congressman Colden stated he was very pleased to see them present, as he fully realized that over 17,000 former Republicans cast their votes for him at the recent election and he hoped that his actions at the special session of Congress had met with their approval and merited the confidence they had placed in him.

"Yes" Man
In commenting upon his experiences at Washington, Congressman Colden stated, in part, "It may have seemed easy from your point of view, for me to say, 'Yes, Yes,' to the program as presented by President Roosevelt, as I voted favorably on all the issues on the President's emergency program; but I did so only after considerable thought and deliberation, and in some instances, by surrendering my personal views. I felt that I would be serving the 17th district better by voting with the President than for my own ideas."

TURN TO STORY 2 Page 5

World's Largest Card Party to Be Featured In Pathe News Reel

The plans for the "World's Largest Outdoor Card Party" to be held on Sartori street, Torrance, on August 5, are taking form rapidly, according to Commander McPhail.

The entertainment committee is not ready to submit its complete program of entertainment, but has promised plenty of amusement for those who do not care to play cards.

The Torrance American Legion drum and bugle corps won a beautiful cup recently at a competition held in Hermosa Beach, and this cup will be formally presented to the corps from the platform during the evening's activities, by Mayor Klusman.

The wholehearted response of musical organizations from neighboring cities invited to take part in the entertainment, is an indication that the novelty of this affair is stimulating widespread interest.

The card players may be limited to 600 tables in order to accommodate the other forms of entertainment to be offered. Anyone wishing to reserve tables for this event may obtain reservations from any local Legionnaire, or by writing to the adjutant, Torrance American Legion post.

The merchants' committee is giving splendid co-operation. The members are busy preparing style shows, window displays, and wonderful bargains. They have assured the American Legion that they are more than willing to do their part to make this a big event.

The matter of prizes has not been fully settled as yet. There will be a prize for each section of the card party, and a grand prize selected during the evening, from the entertainment platform.

One committee reported that the novelty of this event attracted the attention of the Pathe News Service, and that a cameraman would be sent down to Torrance on the evening of August 5.

VALUATION OF PROPERTY CUT TO LOW LEVEL

Reduction of Seventeen Per Cent In Figures Below Last Year

Assessed valuation of Torrance property for ad valorem tax purposes for 1933-34 was placed at \$15,301,000 this week by County Assessor Ed Hopkins, a reduction of \$2,354,865 over the 1932-33 figure of \$18,655,865. This is computed to be 17 per cent.

Of the new total valuation, \$6,023,049 represents real estate, \$4,276,615 improvements, and \$4,998,905 represents personal property. Hopkins explained, the other \$5410 is money which was assessed.

Comparative figures show that Torrance real estate dropped from \$7,853,830, the 1932 figure, a decrease of \$1,815,790, but that buildings were raised \$28,955 from the 1932 figure of \$4,247,660.

Throughout Los Angeles county, valuation of real estate showed a reduction of \$301,859,065, or 2.18 per cent. In contrast to this the value of improvements showed a net increase of \$10,760,560, or 1.35 per cent. Assessor Hopkins explained that this does not mean that any of the old buildings were increased in assessed value but that the new value was brought about by new construction estimated at a little more than \$16,000,000 assessed value.

From this was taken earthquake damages estimated at about \$6,000,000, giving the net figure of \$10,760,560.

In addition to the real estate, improvements, personal property and money, there are stocks and bonds, and solvent credits, the latter item meaning money that is owed Torrance residents. Stocks and bonds were shown to have fallen this year from \$102,630 to \$78,400, while solvent credits dropped from \$151,970 last year to \$121,750 this year.

Torrance Blvd. Beautification Gets Under Way

Roadways to Be Widened and Parking Strip Planted With Shrubs, Flowers

Beautification of Torrance boulevard and the widening of the two roadways between Cravena avenue and Date street got under way this week, following approval of requested funds from the gasoline tax. A crew of ten men were assigned to grading the parking section between the roadways, which will be planted with shrubs and flowers. The two roadways are to be made three feet wider than at present.

Widening of Torrance boulevard between Madrona avenue and the Redondo city limits is progressing. Much of the grading has been done and workmen are now moving utility line poles preparatory to laying pavement.

Night Prowlers Enter Three Homes On Acacia Friday

Burglars in Torrance are getting pretty bold when they enter the home of a special officer to ransack the premises. Members of this night prowling fraternity picked out the home of Ed Little, 1519 Acacia, as the scene of their operations Friday night, July 14, and took a revolver belonging to Little, who has been acting as a special deputy during the Mexican labor troubles in this section. Mr. and Mrs. Little were away from home when the burglary was committed early in the evening.

Other homes in the neighborhood which were entered on the same night were those of R. L. Riggs, 1507 Acacia, where a watch and a leather jacket were stolen, and Sam Boice, 1515 Acacia, where apparently nothing was taken.

Recently some unknown party stole a 50-foot length of garden hose from the premises occupied by Night Police Everett Traviola.

TO VISIT AT SALT LAKE CITY
Mr. and Mrs. Louis Fernelly, 1552 Post avenue, left Tuesday morning on a motor trip to Salt Lake City, Utah, where they will visit with friends and relatives.

Water Report

Gives Value of Torrance Water Company Plant at \$113,441, and No More

Except for the detail sheets supplementing the summary chart, the following is the complete report of Salisbury, Bradshaw & Taylor, special consulting engineers engaged by the City of Torrance, setting forth the valuation of physical property of the Torrance Water, Light & Power Company used for water supply within the area of the Torrance Municipal Improvement District No. 1: - - -

By Chas. Bradshaw July 10th, 1933.

To the Honorable City Council
City of Torrance
Torrance, California.

Gentlemen:
Pursuant to your instructions, we have prepared and herewith present our estimate and statement of the physical property of the Torrance Water, Light & Power Company used in serving water to the territory covered by the Torrance Municipal Improvement District No. 1, and an appraisal of the present money value of this property.

The ground work for such an appraisal has been well prepared by the various reports rendered to the Water Company by the various engineers it has employed from time to time to aid it in securing increased rates or in building up an appraisal value for the purpose of selling the plant, and by the report prepared last year by your City Engineer as a preliminary study toward the acquisition of a municipally owned water system. These reports were placed at my disposal by the City Engineer and I must express my appreciation of the very cheerful and comprehensive assistance furnished by his office in the preparation of this report.

The values here given are based on the present day prices of material and contract costs of doing work to give the base cost of the project. These base project costs are built up by an addition for "overhead" to cover the incidental costs of doing work such as organization, engineering, legal expense, interest during construction, and the several other inevitable expenses that must be incurred to start and prosecute the business of building such a plant, and which costs are as much a part of the legitimate cost of such a project as are valves, trench digging or pumps. This gives the "complete" new cost of the project. These "complete" costs are diminished by the "age" depreciation to give the present net depreciated value, which is the final information that you want.

A full tabular summary of the values arrived at is given below. The first column of numbers gives the net contract cost of each item. The second column gives the total cost including an overhead of 12%. These total cost figures are then reduced by the "age" depreciation formula as described above to give the third column which is the net present worth of the various items and totals.

Summary of Appraisal of Physical Property of Torrance Water, Light & Power Company Used to Serve the Territory Within Torrance Municipal Improvement District No. 1

ITEMS	Base Contract Price	Complete Cost, Inc. Overhead 12% Per Cent	Present Net Depreciated Value
(All values stated to nearest even dollar)			
Land (Lots 15 and 16, Block 52)	\$ 1,200	\$ 1,356	\$ 1,356
Pumping Plant			
Including Pump House	2,974	3,360	560
Water Treatment Equipment	1,354	1,469	812
Water Distribution Lines, Cast Iron	79,554	89,204	67,255
Cast Iron Fittings	3,704	4,186	3,129
Water Distribution, Riveted and Galvanized	30,781	34,783	3,478
Valves	3,500	3,953	2,253
Services	17,490	19,764	10,813
Meters	25,565	28,888	16,110
Fire Hydrants	4,754	5,372	2,687
Railroad Crossings	123	140	105
Tools and Service Equipment	746	843	422
Trucks and Automobiles	580	580*	580
General Stock	4,550	4,550*	3,413
Office and Shop Fixtures and Equipment	994	1,123	674
Totals Total Net Value of All	\$177,815	\$200,261	\$113,441
Present Total Net Value of All			\$113,441

*No overhead on these items.

At this point, we would like to call attention to the fact that "present costs" is a very elusive title and that prices are showing a decided tendency to expand from day to day. Cast iron pipe has advanced about 6% since we started studies for this report, and contractors advise me that bids "today" would be about that much higher than two weeks ago.

The method of age depreciation that we have used is the usual straight line formula which sets a definite total life for a given equipment and assumes the value of this equipment at any time is in direct proportion to the remaining years of this life or inversely proportional to its present age. This means that if, say, a pipe line, has an estimated useful life of 60 years and it is 20 years old, one-third of its life is gone and it is worth only two-thirds of the cost of installing it new at that time. This method is fair enough, for such equipment as usually preserves its efficiency and usefulness to the end. But for pipe lines which make up the larger percentage of the cost value in a water system, this method gives too much value to the latter years of such a pipe system so that the party buying out a used pipe system on the basis of the above method be it the municipality being served or a new private company entering the field, inevitably gets the worst of the deal.

This is the customary method of determining the value of such equipment in adjudicating the sale price or rate fixing basis for the people of a municipality; so we have followed that procedure here—and this discussion is written to show you that you are giving all the project is worth when you buy it on this accepted basis of valuation.

All water service property is shown listed together with present replacement costs and depreciated values on the subsequent, tabulated appraisal sheets.

As the larger part of the cost of this water system is in the cast iron pipe, we are giving herewith a table showing the basis of the cost of this item. This cost is made up of pipe price, trenching and backfilling, pipe laying and caulking, and resurfacing the parts of the lines that cut into paved streets and alley

(Continued on Page 4-A)

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